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C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 002112

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 08/15/2017

TAGS: PREL PTER GM TU

SUBJECT: TURKISH POLICE SEIZE EQUIPMENT ALLEGED FOR PKK AND  
LINKED TO TURKISH EMPLOYEE AT US BASE IN GERMANY

REF: IIR 1 671 250807

Classified By: Acting Pol-Mil Counselor Christopher Rich for reasons 1.  
4 (b,d)

¶1. (C) On August 14, MFA Deputy Director General for Security Affairs Sakir Torunlar requested US assistance with an investigation of a truck seized by Turkish police in the Mediterranean Sea port of Mersin on August 2. The truck contained portable radios and first aid supplies which, according to Turkish police, were being transferred to the PKK.

¶2. (C) According to Torunlar, the driver of the truck confessed to obtaining the radios and first aid supplies from a Turkish national employee of the US Army Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES) in Giessen, Germany.

¶3. (SBU) Torunlar provided a list of the equipment seized from the truck, which includes six black colored, "Yeasu" brand hand-held radios with batteries, carrying straps, and communication keys, and six other black colored portable radios with batteries, belt clips, and antennas. The list also includes the contents of a single first aid kit and 60 "rechargeable heat bags used for warming in rural areas."

¶4. (SBU) We have provided the information given by MFA on the AAFES employee to AFOSI/Ankara, which will initiate investigative activity with appropriate US agencies. Ankara AFOSI POC is Mr. Chuck Gillow, tel. (90)(532) 712-4974. Turkish authorities did not elaborate on police allegations that the supplies were for the PKK.

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<http://www.state.sgov.gov/p/eur/ankara/>

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